原　哲夫

この作品の脚本を書いて下さっている二橋先生は、隆先生とはかなり長い付合いをなされたそうです。映画のプロデューサーであり、最近では、小説もお書きになるという多才な方です。お歳も私より30は上なので、隆先生亡き今、作品のことも人生のことも、何かと教えていただくことが多く感謝にたえません。先生の手のひらの中でSAKONを勝手気ままに描けることに近頃、喜びを感じております。

●月刊少年ジャンプH9年9月号～H10年1月号掲載分収録

LOVE
JC

JUMP COMICS

生涯の盟友

2

漫画・原哲夫
原作・隆慶一郎
脚本・二橋進吾

SAKON

左近

―戦国風雲録―

左近
SAKON
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2
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ジャンプ・コミックス

◆豊左近は、主君・石田三成より託された豊臣家の未来を護るため、家康(影武者)と対面する。だが、天下支配を企む徳川秀忠は、柳生宗矩に左近と影武者の抹殺を命じた…。今、左近と柳生裏忍びの死闘が幕を開ける…!!

ジャンプコミックス

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ジョジョの奇妙な冒険	1～56	荒木飛呂彦
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自由人H E R O	1～16	柴田亜美
ハノト・トリノク	1	山下東七郎
G O D A G U N	1	片倉・M・政春
符方術士	巳	山田カヨ

★各巻とも好評発売中!!

This is an adaptation of the novel
Kagemusha Tokugawa Ieyasu (published by
Shinchosha) arranged in shonen manga format

★この作品は、小説『影武者徳川家康』(新潮社刊)をもとに、少年漫画誌向けにアレンジしたものです。

JUMP COMICS

SAKON

左近

戦国風雲録

Record of the Upheaval of the Warring States

Volume 2: *Lifelong Friend*

Manga: Tetsuo Hara

Original Work: Keiichiro Ryu

Script: Shingo Nihashi

Characters

Serada Jirosaburo
Ieyasu's Shadow Warrior

Rokuro of Kai
Sakon's trusted ninja

Shima Sakon

A wise and brave warrior who was hired by Ishida Mitsunari only at the cost of half his fief

Summary

In the age of the Warring States, there was a man who boldly lived his life for the sake of duty. His name was **Shima Sakon**!!

It was September 15, 1600. During the Battle of Sekigahara that split the nation, Sakon assassinated **Tokugawa Ieyasu**, Commander of the Eastern Army, hoping to lead his lord **Ishida Mitsunari** and the Western Army to victory!! But despite Sakon's efforts, the commands of Ieyasu's shadow warrior, **Serada Jirosaburo**, brought victory to the Eastern Army.

Wounded at Sekigahara, Sakon could not save Mitsunari. On October 1, 1600, Mitsunari was executed. That day, Sakon went to the execution grounds to learn Mitsunari's will, and through sign language, he was entrusted with the future of the Toyotomi.

However, **Yagyu Munenori** was lying in wait to take Sakon's head. Munenori ordered a master of the Yagyu Shinkage Style, Yagyu Hachitora, to face Sakon, but their duel ended with Sakon's overwhelming victory. So began the feud between Sakon and the Yagyu, and only God knew when it would end!!

Tokugawa Hidetada
Ieyasu's third child

Yagyu Munenori
Leader of the Yagyu

SAKON 左近 —戦国風雲録—

Record of the Upheaval of the Warring States

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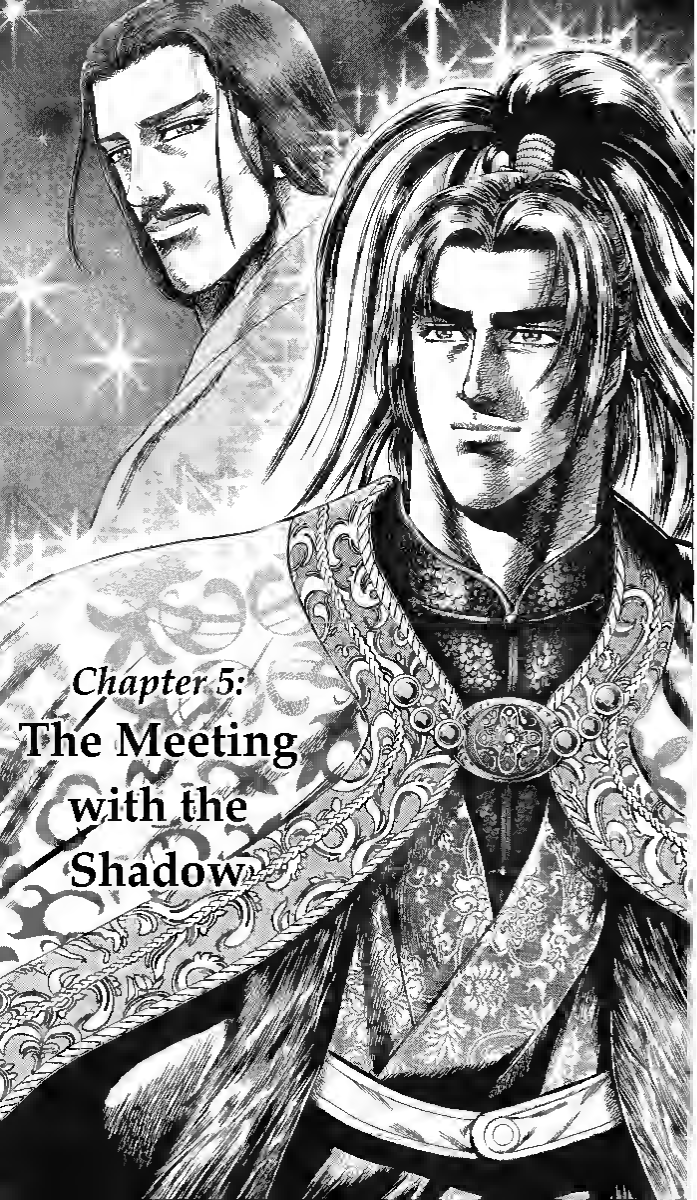

Chapter 5:
The Meeting with the Shadow

The corpses of the war's casualties moldered on, unburied.

One month after the execution of Ishida Mitsunari, on November 1, Keicho year 5 (1600), Sekigahara...

ヲォォォ

TO THINK ...
THAT I WOULD EVER RETURN TO SEKIGAHARA ...
ゴクッ

.....
.....

LISTEN. ONE MONTH AFTER MY DEATH, AT SEKIGAHARA...
THE SHADOW WARRIOR WILL MEET WITH YOU.
YOU CAN LAY EYES UPON HIM YOURSELF.

Rokuro had been following Ieyasu (Serada Jirosaburo) in Osaka Castle for the past month.
スパッ!!

I APPRECIATE YOUR HARD WORK.

THANK YOU

RIGHT.
THIS WAY. THE SHADOW WARRIOR AWAITS YOU AT MT. SASAO.

THE FIRST PEBBLE ...
IS FOR THE FATHER ...
THE SECOND PEBBLE ...
IS FOR THE MOTHER ...
THE FATHER PEBBLE FACES WEST... THE MOTHER PEBBLE FACES EAST...
AS THE VOICES CRY WITH THE PEBBLES... THE GREEN TEARS WILL NOT STOP...
.....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ...!?
THE SECOND PEBBLE IS FOR THE MOTHER...
THE FIRST PEBBLE IS FOR THE FATHER...

THAT MAN ...
WAS CONCERNED ONLY WITH HIS EXCELLENCY HIDEYOSHI...
AND OF HIS ORPHAN, LORD HIDEYORI...
AS HE STACKED HIS PEBBLES.

HEHE ...
HEH ...

I WAS THINKING OF THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF ISHIDA MITSUNARI.
AS I WAS SITTING HERE...

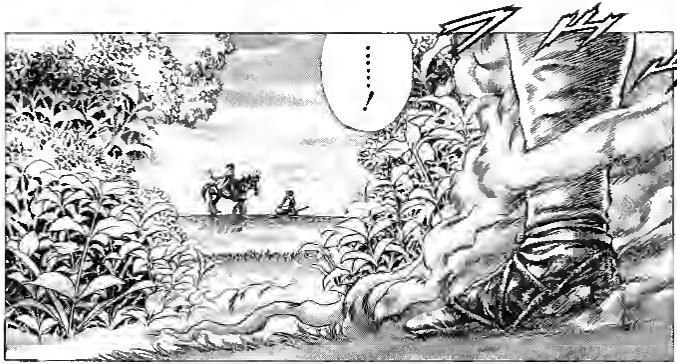
WHEN HE WAS SO CLOSE TO FINISHING ...
BUT... WHEN HE THOUGHT HE WOULD FINALLY FINISH THE STACK...

HE STACKED PEBBLES ON TOP OF EACH OTHER FOR THE SAKE OF THE TOYOTOMI AND FOR THE SAKE OF THE NATION
ONE ...
BY ONE ...

A TRANSIENT LIFE ...
HE LIVED ...

AND DASHED THE STACK ASUNDER.
ALONG CAME A DEMON BY THE NAME OF IEYASU

!


!

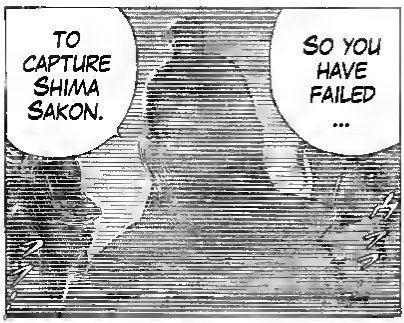
HEHE... HOW FOOLISH.
HE IS BUT A SHADOW... A MERE PUPPET.

From the moment this Shadow Warrior Serada Jirosaburo, met with Ishida Mitsunari as Tokugawa Ieyasu, Munenori became suspicious, and sent his ninja to observe him...
SO THIS WAS ISHIDA MITSUNARI'S FINAL PLAN ....!

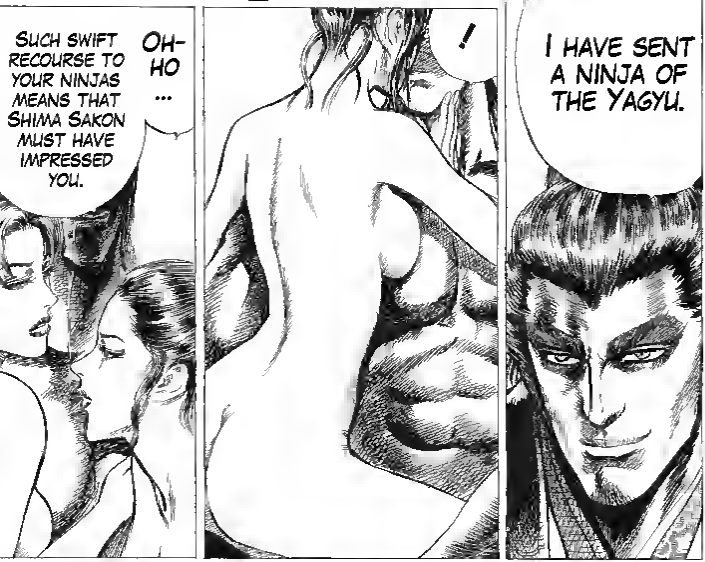
Osaka Castle
Outer Citadel
MY LORD !

YOU'RE BACK, MUNÉ-NORI.
YES, SIR.

I AM SIMPLY LETTING HIM SWIM.
NO.


TO CAPTURE SHIMA SAKON.
SO YOU HAVE FAILED ...

OH? YOU MEAN THE YAGYU SHINKAGE STYLE?
WITH A SINGLE BLOW. I FIND HIM RATHER AMUSING.
HE KILLED ONE OF OUR STUDENTS...
!
WHAT IS MORE ...
ISHIDA MITSUNARI HAS PLOTTED FOR THEM TO JOIN FORCES.
HEHE... HOW AMUSING, FOR TWO GHOSTS TO JOIN FORCES.
SHIMA SAKON, AND THE PRESUMED DECEASED IEYASU...
HEHE... THE SUPPOSEDLY DECEASED...

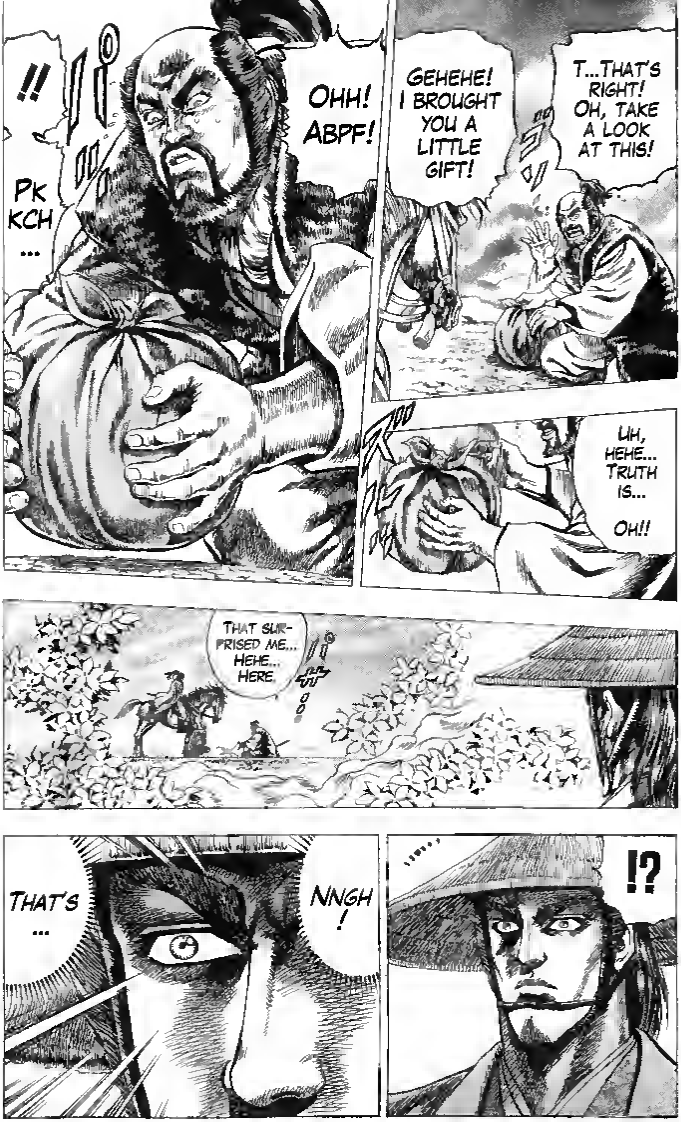

I HAVE SENT A NINJA OF THE YAGYU.
!
OH-HO ...
SUCH SWIFT RECOURSE TO YOUR NINJAS MEANS THAT SHIMA SAKON MUST HAVE IMPRESSED YOU.

YES, SIR. I BELIEVE I WILL HAVE SOME FUN WITH HIM.
HEHE .. AMUSE YOURSELF TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT. HAHAHA...!

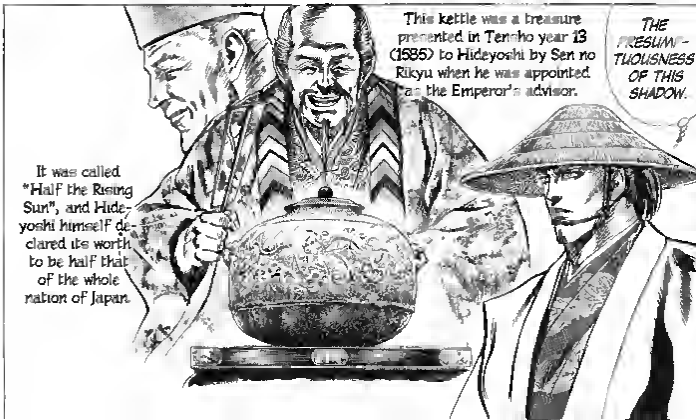
DO NOT HESITATE TO END THE SHADOW WARRIOR ALONG WITH SHIMA SAKON! THEY ARE ALREADY DEAD MEN ANYWAY! HAH HAHAHA
AS YOU WILL!!

I COULD NOT BELIEVE YOU HAD REALLY SURVIVED!
GEHHE HEHE!
THAT'S AMAZING . YOU'RE PRETTY AMAZING!

.....
TO JOIN FORCES ...!?
YOU WISH ...


!!
PK
KCH
...
OHH!
ABPF!
GEHEHE!
I BROUGHT
YOU A
LITTLE
GIFT!
T...THAT'S
RIGHT!
OH, TAKE
A LOOK
AT THIS!
UH,
HEHE...
TRUTH
IS...
OH!!
THAT SUR-
PRISED ME...
HEHE...
HERE.
THAT'S
...
NNGH
!
!?

IT'S WORTH AS MUCH AS HALF OF THE ENTIRE NATION OF JAPAN!
I WANT YOU TO ACCEPT THIS!


It was called "Half the Rising Sun", and Hideyoshi himself declared its worth to be half that of the whole nation of Japan.
This kettle was a treasure presented in Tenpo year 13 (1585) to Hideyoshi by Sen no Rikyu when he was appointed as the Emperor's advisor.
THE PRESUMPTUOUSNESS OF THIS SHADOW.

WELL, IT'S NO PROBLEM FOR ME, SINCE I'M LORD IE-YASU ON THE OUTSIDE!
GEHE HEHE ...
BUT I BET THE WHOLE OF OSAKA CASTLE IS UP IN ARMS BY NOW.
I'M IM-PRESSED YOU GOT IT THIS FAR.
EHEHE .. I'M A VAGABOND, SO I AM PRETTY GOOD AT SNEAKING AROUND.
YOU CAN BURGLE, TOO?
I HEARD THAT LORD MITSUNARI OFFERED YOU HALF OF HIS FIEF...
BUT I GUESS I WAS WRONG.
AND I THOUGHT IT WOULD ONLY BE FAIR FOR LORD IEYASU TO GIVE YOU HALF OF JAPAN, BUT I SUPPOSE I WAS WRONG.
OH-HO !

FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, YOU'RE EITHER A MONK, OR YOU'VE ABANDONED THE WORLD.
YOU DON'T SEEM TO WANT IT.

I CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH YOUR EYES.
I NOW SEE WHAT LORD MITSUNARI SAW IN YOU.
AND I CAN FIGURE IT ALL OUT JUST BY LOOKING IN YOUR EYES.

THAT'S HALF OF JAPAN! H-HE COULDN'T DO THAT! HE COULDN'T BREAK IT...!!
N-NO WAY ...
スッ!
WHY?
WHY WOULD A MAN AS GREAT AS YOU AID LORD MITSUNARI?
EVERYONE HATED LORD MITSUNARI SO MUCH, THEY CALLED HIM AN OVERGROWN CHILD
I LIKED...
THAT IMMATURITY OF HIS.
IT WAS THE REASON MITSUNARI LIVED FOR HONOR WITHOUT A SINGLE CLOUD IN HIS MIND.

I WANTED TO DIE WITH HIM FOR THE SAKE OF THAT HONOR.
BUT I COULD NOT.
SO YOU'RE ...
A DEAD MAN.

NWA AH !
YOU BROKE IT?
BUT YOU DIDN'T WANT IT.

WAA AAH HA HA HA HA HA!
YOU BROKE IT!
HEH... CAN'T SEE WHAT YOU'RE SMILING AT!
I'M ABOUT READY TO CRY HERE!

ARE THE WEAK LIKE THEM.
THE ONES WHO ALWAYS SUFFER...
!!
AND I'D LIKE TO JOIN YOU, SO I COULD AT LEAST MAKE THE WORLD FREE...
YES. I USED TO BE A FREE MAN, BUT NOW FOR SOME REASON I'M LORD IEYASU.
.....
YOU SAID EARLIER THAT YOU WERE A VAGABOND ...

EEEE
EEK!

ACK!
HUH?

WOW ...
A TRICK MANTLE ...
HUH?

HEHE... THEY CAUGHT THE SCENT ON MY TRACKERS...
WHAT A SHREWD MAN HE IS... BUT THAT IS WHY I SET UP A SECOND TRAP, AND A THIRD!

ARE THESE THE GUYS FROM BEFORE!?
ROKURO!
THEY'RE PROBABLY NINJA OF THE YAGYU!! BUT...
NNGH!
THEY'RE STRONG... BUT WHY ARE THE YAGYU...!?
!?
LET ME BORROW THIS!

AH, SO THESE ARE THE YAGYU NINJA...
HEHE! MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOUGH FOR YOU TWO ALONE!
HO HE HE!
HO HE!
HO!

HEH ...
HEH HAHA HA!
YOU TRULY ARE AN INTER-ESTING MAN!!

SAKON

左近

=戦国風雲録=

Chapter Five

Presented by Hokuto no Gun
Translated by SystematicChaos
Proofread by LoverOfHokuto & Wright
Edited by Akromata

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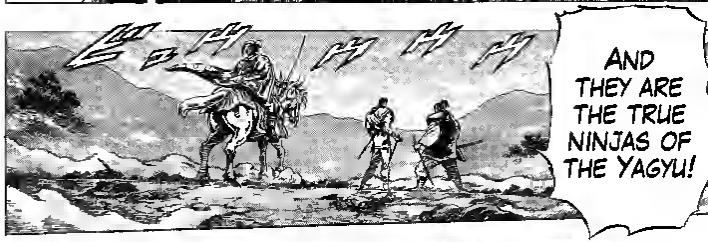
Chapter 6:
Clash!! The Yagyu's Ninja

In accordance with Ishida Mitsunari's final wishes, Sukon went to Sekigahara to conspire with Serada Jirosaburo, Ieyasu's shadow warrior, but they found themselves ambushed by the ninja of the Yagyu.
WAHHA HAHA! THIS FEELS GREAT !!
SO YOU'RE MORE THAN A MERE SHADOW AFTER ALL!
During the battle, the Shadow Warrior Jirosaburo cut down the Yagyu ninja with terrifying skill!!!
EHEHE ... STILL ... THIS IS A PRETTY TIGHT SPOT WE'RE IN.
HEH HAH HAH HAH !
WEH HEHE !

OH ...
THIS IS JUST THE BE-GINNING.
THEIR ATTACK IS FAR FROM OVER.
BUT WHY WOULD THE YAGYU ATTACK US...?
THEIR MAIN ARMY IS READY TO SPRING ...


AND THEY ARE THE TRUE NINJAS OF THE YAGYU!

HEHE... I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE SMILING NOW...
THAT SOUNDS FUN!
OH-HO! THE TRUE NINJAS?

WHAT IS IT!?
.....
HMM !?
...THERE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE A MOUNTAIN THAT WAY...
BUT PERHAPS MY SENSE OF DIRECTION IS OFF.
!!
....
NO, SIR ROKURO ...
IT'S NOT OFF.
HUH ?
Y...YOU DON'T MEAN!?

T-THAT'S NOT A MOUNTAIN!
I-...IT'S PEOPLE ...!!
IT'S A MOUNTAIN OF PEOPLE! AND LOOK HOW MANY THERE ARE!!

Yagyu Ninja Myriad Avalanche Hell!!
A formation so deadly that Yagyu tradition said of it merely that "none hath escaped, thus none can speak of it."

SO IT WOULD SEEM.

THEY'RE NOT GONNA LET US ESCAPE, NO MATTER WHAT!
AND THEY'RE NOT RANK-AND-FILE SOLDIERS, EITHER! THEY'RE ALL WELL-TRAINED NINJAS!
HAHHAHA! LOOK, HOW MANY OF THEM THERE ARE!

EEE EEK !
MY LORD !!

IF I'M LUCKY, I MIGHT JUST DIE HERE!!
WAHHA HAHA! THIS IS GREAT!
THIS ...
IF HE'S LUCKY?
BUT ...

IS NOT WHERE MY LIFE WILL END!!

FOLLOW ME, ROKURO!

ORAA
AH!
NURA
AAH!

UOO
OOO
RAAA
AAH
!
BU
RYAA
AAH
!

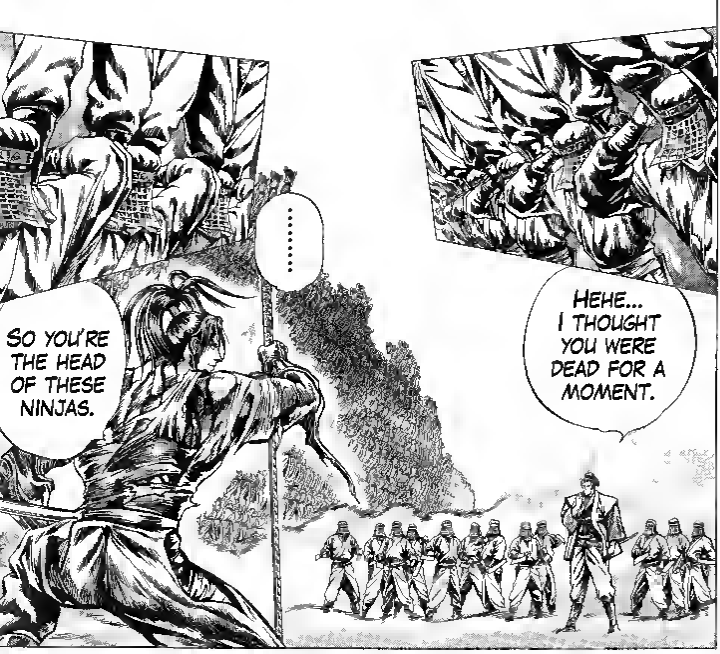
D-
DON'T COME NEAR ME!
EEEK! S-STOP THIS!!
SHADOW WARRIOR, DO NOT LEAVE MY SIDE!
HEHE... I'M IMPRESSED, SHIMA SAKON! YOU'RE LASTING QUITE LONG AGAINST THE YAGYU NINJA'S MYRIAD AVALANCHE HELL FORMATION.
BUT NO ONE HAS SURVIVED THIS FORMATION.
YOU WILL FACE A DELUGE OF SKILLED YAGYU NINJA UNTIL YOUR LIFE CEASES!

GGH! THEY'LL KILL ME AT THIS RATE!
HE TRULY IS HEAVILY WOUNDED!!
AS MY NINJAS REPORTED, HE WAS SHOT 5 TIMES AT SEKIGAHARA, AND NEARLY DIED. AND THOSE WOUNDS...

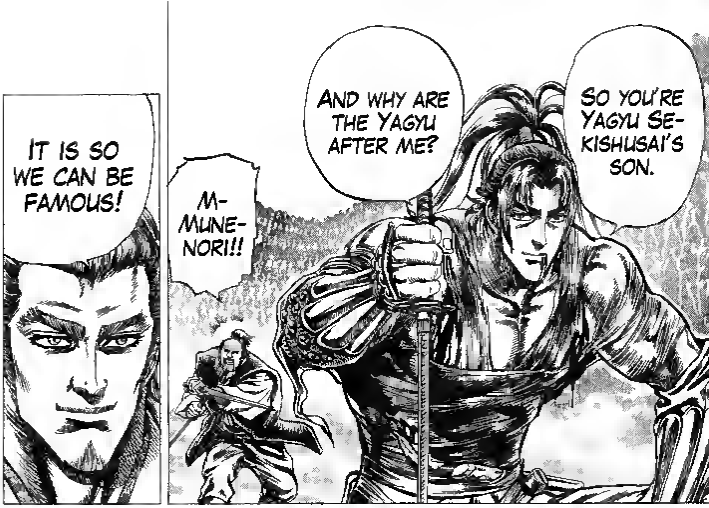
HAVE NOT FULLY HEALED !!
In those days, bullets were large and slow, and when they hit, they left brutal wounds. In addition, their piercing power was limited, so they would often remain in the victim's flesh. Since these bullets were made of lead and contaminated with germs, they would cause tetanus or gangrene. Thus, the death rate from bullet wounds at the time was incredibly high.
BULLET WOUNDS! I WAS FOOLED BY HIS STRENGTH. HE REALLY IS DYING!
In fact, one of Tokugawa's four lords, Ii Naomasa, died of a bullet wound from Sekigahara two years later
HMM !?
It was then that Sakon's trick mantle attacked Munenori!!

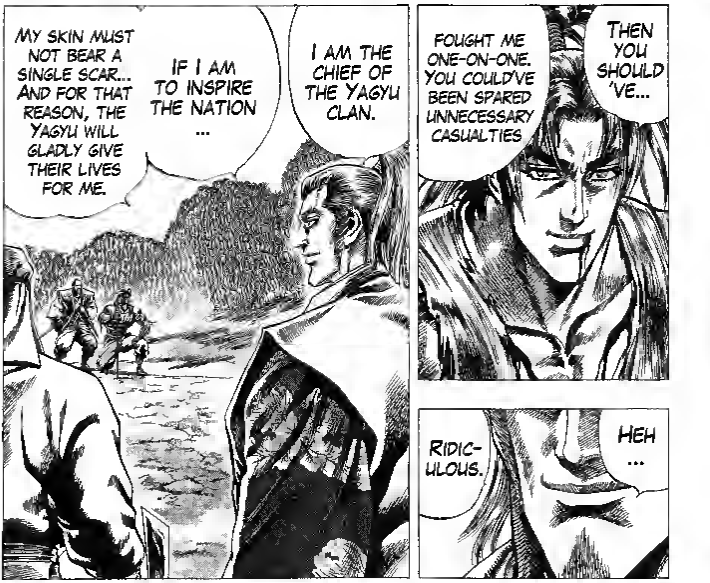
ガッ
HEHE...WHAT A MAN HE MUST BE, TO BREAK THROUGH THE MYRIAD AVALANCHE HELL FORMATION ...
COME ON OUT!
YOU THERE!

NNGH ?
NEEE EIGH !
!!
!!
MY LORD !!

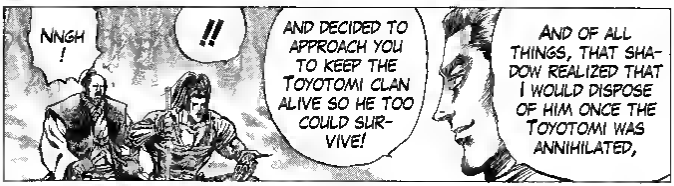

HEHE... I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD FOR A MOMENT.
.....
SO YOU'RE THE HEAD OF THESE NINJAS.

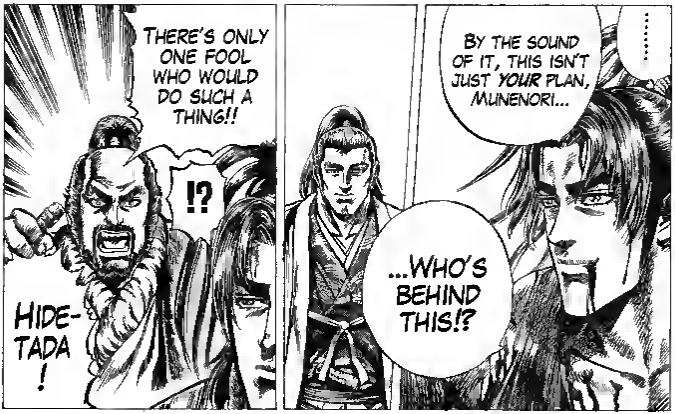
YOU WERE THERE THE DAY LORD MITSUNARI DIED.
I AM YAGYU MATAEMON MUNENORI.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE TOO CRUEL FOR YOU TO SEND YOU TO YOUR DEATH WITHOUT YOU KNOWING WHO KILLED YOU. THINK OF IT AS A WARRIOR'S PITY.


SO YOU'RE YAGYU SEKISHUSAI'S SON.
AND WHY ARE THE YAGYU AFTER ME?
M-MUNENORI!!
IT IS SO WE CAN BE FAMOUS!


MY SKIN MUST NOT BEAR A SINGLE SCAR... AND FOR THAT REASON, THE YAGYU WILL GLADLY GIVE THEIR LIVES FOR ME.
IF I AM TO INSPIRE THE NATION ...
I AM THE CHIEF OF THE YAGYU CLAN.
FOUGHT ME ONE-ON-ONE. YOU COULD'VE BEEN SPARED UNNECESSARY CASUALTIES
THEN YOU SHOULD 'VE...
RIDICULOUS.
HEH ...

YOU OF THE OLD TOYOTOMI ORDER ARE BUT A DISTURBANCE!
WE ARE ABOUT TO CREATE A NEW ORDER ...
THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YAGYU TO GAIN POWER!
FOR THAT REASON, THEY ALL ARE PREPARED TO DIE FOR ME! ALL IS FOR THE GLORY OF THE YAGYU!


NNGH !
!!
AND DECIDED TO APPROACH YOU TO KEEP THE TOYOTOMI CLAN ALIVE SO HE TOO COULD SURVIVE!
AND OF ALL THINGS, THAT SHADOW REALIZED THAT I WOULD DISPOSE OF HIM ONCE THE TOYOTOMI WAS ANNIHILATED,


THERE'S ONLY ONE FOOL WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING!!
!?
HIDETADA !
BY THE SOUND OF IT, THIS ISN'T JUST *YOUR* PLAN, MUNENORI...
.....
...WHO'S BEHIND THIS!?

Ieyasu's third child, currently 22 years old.
At this point, Hidetada was the only one of Ieyasu's sons who knew of Ieyasu's death and of the shadow warrior (the only others were a minimal number of his retainers and Ieyasu's close associates). Having learned the truth, Hidetada burned with black ambition to force the Tokugawa inheritance from Jirosaburo, eliminate the Toyotomi, and rule the people of the nation as he pleased.
HEHEHE... THEY SHOULD HAVE WIPED THEM OUT BY NOW!
Toku-gawa Hide-tada
BE IT THE TINIEST INSECT, ANY OBSTACLE MUST BE DEALT WITH.

HMM ?
MY ...!
OH! MY LORD! YOUR LIP IS BLEED-ING...
!!
MUNENORI...
I SEE.

WE WILL WAGE ANOTHER WAR!
INDEED! OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO CRUSH THE TOYOTOMI!!
HE THINKS HE CAN RULE THE NATION ON HIS OWN, AND HE WANTS TO CRUSH THE TOYOTOMI FIRST.
HIDETADA, HUH?
FOR I AM NEEDED AS LORD TOKUGAWA!! HIDETADA CAN'T RULE THE NATION YET!! I HAD ONLY ONE CHOICE, AND THAT'S WHY I FOLLOWED LORD MITSUNARI'S PLAN!
I WILL PROLONG THE ASCENDANCY OF THE TOYOTOMI AND MAINTAIN THEIR POWER...
I... I WON'T LET HIDETADA HAVE HIS WAY!
HE LIVED FOR DUTY AND DIED FOR DUTY! AND I NOW INHERIT HIS WILL!
THOUGHT ONLY OF THE TOYOTOMI...
NNGH!
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO DECLARE LORD IEYASU'S DEATH, AND LORD HIDETADA SHALL SUCCEED HIM.
HEHE... I'M SORRY, BUT YOU ALL WILL DIE HERE.
MY LORD MITSUNARI ...
GGG GGH ...
UH ...

YOU DREAM IN VAIN.
HEH HEH ...
UNTIL MY LIFE IS OVER!
I WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT ...
FINISH THAT STUBBORN FOOL OFF!!

AFTER ...
HMM ?
WHAT'S THE MATTER !?
NNGH !
W... WHAT !?
JUST AS ONE WOULD EXPECT OF ROKURO !! HE ATTACKED THE MYRIAD AVALANCHE HELL FROM BEHIND!
PHEW
THIS WAS HARDLY A DIFFICULT TASK FOR ROKURO...

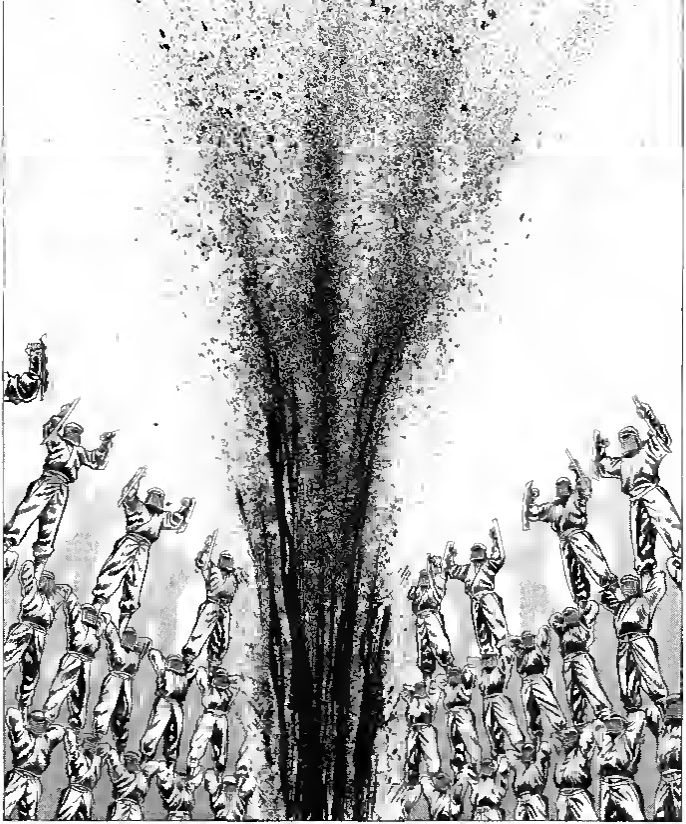
PRE-
PARE
TO
DIE
!!
KCH!!
IMPOS-
SIBLE!
MUNE
NORI!
UN
NGH
!

!!
NN
NGH
!!

Yagyu
Shinkage Style
Secret Technique:
Swordless
Catch!!

HEHEHE... IS THAT ALL YOUR SUMIHO-MURA HAS TO OFFER ?
SHIMA SAKON HAS BEEN DEFEATED !!
BUT HOW ABOUT THIS!?
メキメキ
WAH HAHA !
NOT BAD AT ALL, MUNE-NORI!
K-K-KCH ...
WHAT ?
HUH ?

H-HOW DID YOU HAVE SUCH STRENGTH LEFT...
GGGH...WHAT SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH ...
HAHHAH HAHHAH!
I MUST KEEP THE NATION OUT OF SUCH UNWORTHY HANDS AS YOURS!
Sekigahara once more... Now a new battle was about to begin between those who would protect the Toyotomi, and those who would have them destroyed!!
At Sekigahara, where Mitsunari boldly gave his life, the mysterious current of history brought Shima Sakon and the shadow warrior together.



SAKON 左近 ―戦国風雲録―

Chapter Six

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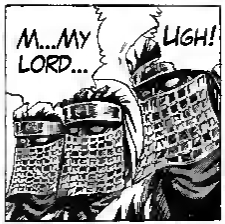
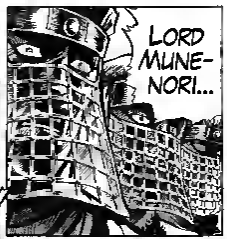
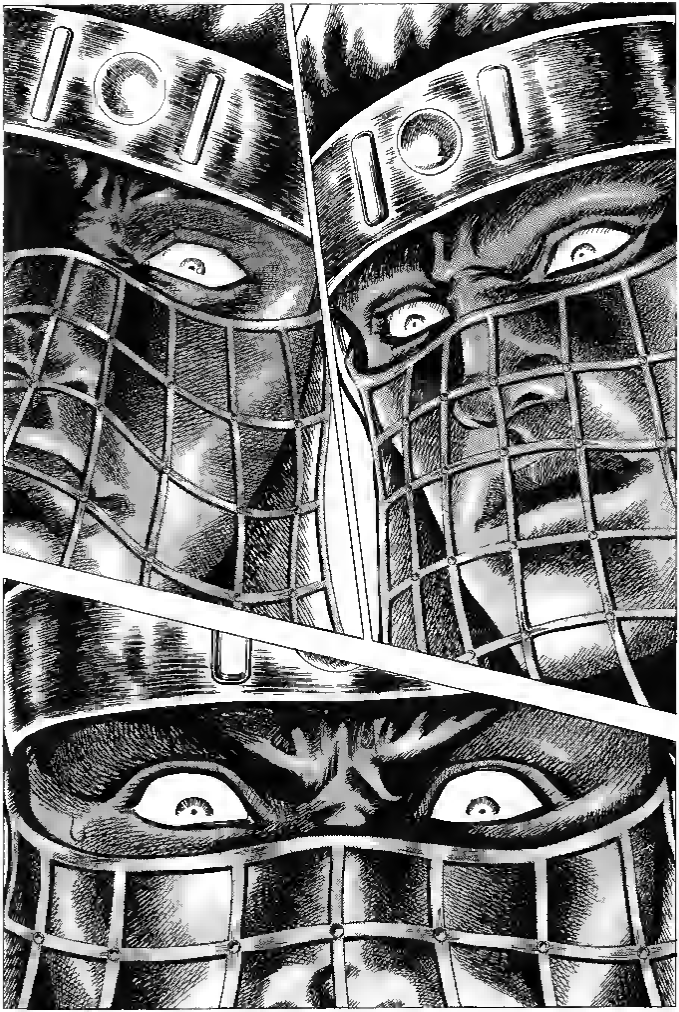
Chapter 7: Lifelong Friend

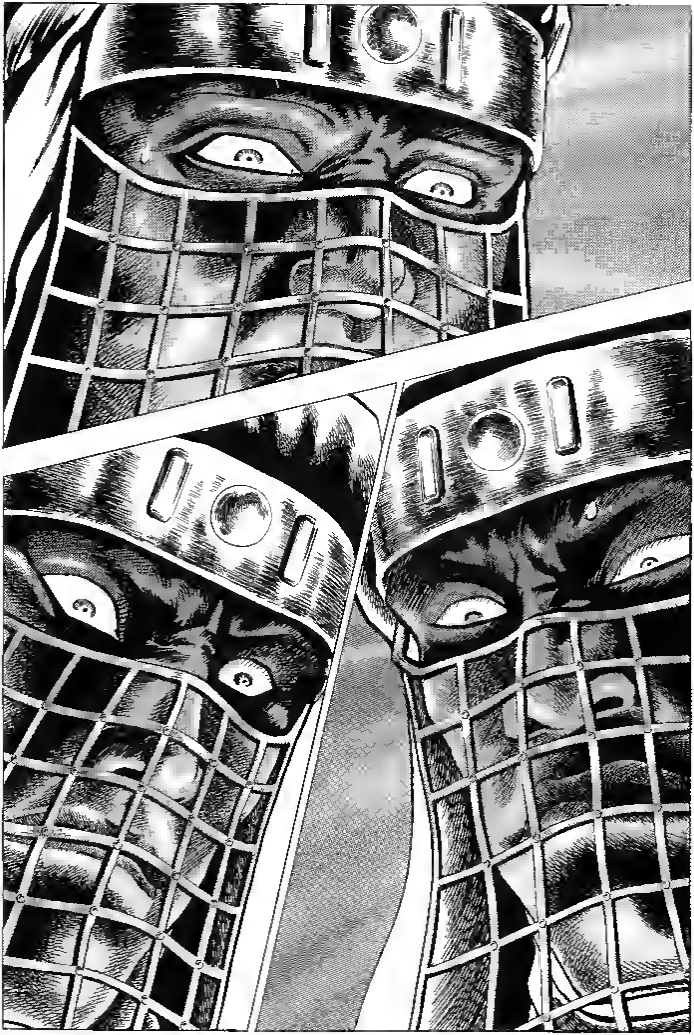




Chapter 7: Lifelong Friend

DON'T MOVE !!
OTHER-WISE I'LL CLEAVE MUNENORI CLEAN IN TWAIN!!!





!!
I'VE BURIED MY BLADE IN THE BODY YOU SAID COULDN'T AFFORD A SINGLE SCAR!
HEHE...
MUNE-NORI...
I'D EX...ECT NO LESS OF MY LORD! WITH MUNENORI HIS HOSTAGE NOW, EVEN THE YAGYU NINJAS ARE HELPLESS!
W...WH...T A MAN SHIMA SAKON IS...!!
HE HALTED THE NINJAS WITH JUST ONE SHOUT ...

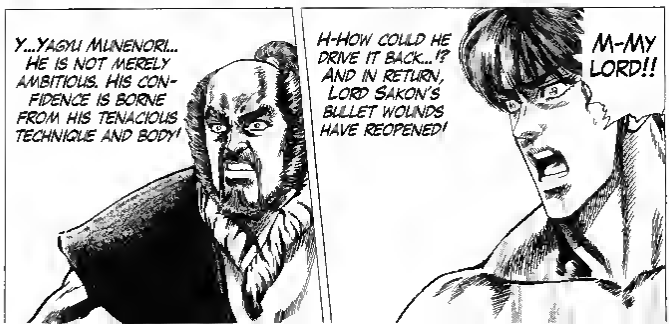
NOW THAT I'VE CUT YOU, THIS BATTLE ...
IS YOUR LOSS!!
RE-TREAT !
OR I'LL CUT YOU IN TWO!!

HEH ...
HEHE HE...
IT IS TRUE ...
THAT YOU ARE THE FIRST MAN EVER TO WOUND ME WITH A SWORD.
I COMMEND YOU FOR IT.
BUT ...
DON'T THINK YOU'VE WON JUST YET!
NUUAAAA AAAAAH!!

UNN NGH !
MNN NGH !
C... CAN IT BE?
UN GH!
HUH ?
NUA AAA AH !
MU OO OH !

UNN NGH !
NUO OOO UGH !
NU AAA AH !
UO OOO UGH !
NUA AAA AAH !
GGH !

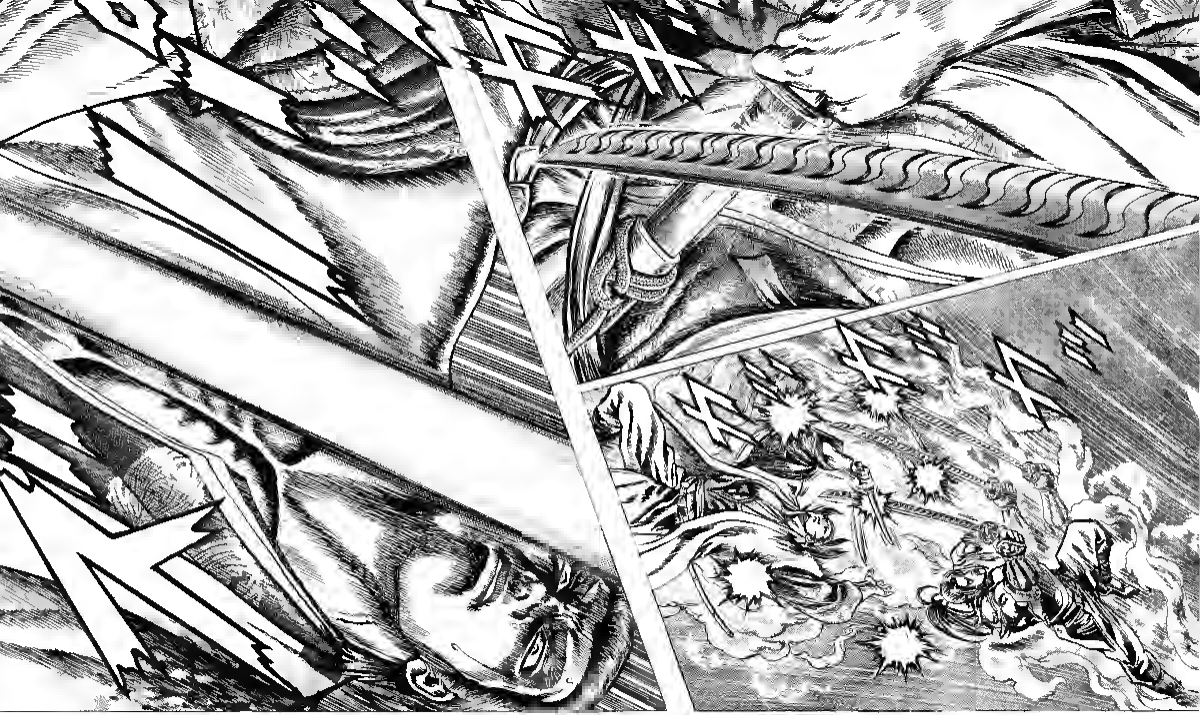
DE
YAA
AAA
AH!


Y...YAGYU MUNENORI... HE IS NOT MERELY AMBITIOUS. HIS CONFIDENCE IS BORNE FROM HIS TENACIOUS TECHNIQUE AND BODY!
H-HOW COULD HE DRIVE IT BACK...!? AND IN RETURN, LORD SAKON'S BULLET WOUNDS HAVE REOPENED!
M-MY LORD!!

HEHE HE ...
SHIMA SAKON! YOU NO LONGER...
STAND ANY CHANCE!
HEH... NOT BAD, MUNE-NORI.
UGUOH!

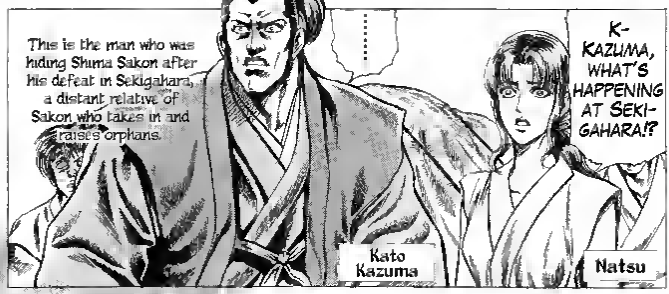
MY LORD ...!! NO!
IF MUNE-NORI GETS ABOVE HIM, HE'LL BE KILLED!
COUGH !

MM GH!
DEE EEE EE EI!!
PHEW!



WHAT?
THEY'RE FLYING?
HUH?
UGEEAH! W-WHAT?
GGH! IF I BLOCK SUMIHOMURA'S ATTACKS HEAD-ON, MY SWORD WILL BREAK!
I HAVE TO STRIKE AT AN OPENING AND SLASH WITHOUT OUR SWORDS MEETING!
ORAA AAAH!
BUT FOR THE YAGYU SHINKAGE STYLIST, THERE IS NO LACK OF OPENINGS ABOUT YOU! YOU ARE MINE, SHIMA SAKON!!

W... WHAT WAS THAT?!
HUH !?
HUFF
HUFF


This is the man who was hiding Shima Sakon after his defeat in Sekigahara, a distant relative of Sakon who takes in and raises orphans.
K-KAZUMA, WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SEKI-GAHARA!?
Kato Kazuma
Natsu

LORD SAKON, PLEASE BE SAFE !!
AHH !
W-WE MUST HURRY!
TOKUGAWA'S ASSASSINS MUST HAVE FOUND SAKON ...
T-THIS ISN'T GOOD, NATSU!

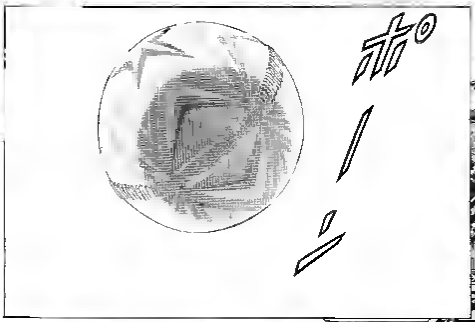
NOW NEITHER OF THEM CAN MOVE... BUT THEY'LL HIT THE GROUND SOON ENOUGH!
AND WHEN THEY DO, THAT WILL DECIDE WHO LIVES AND WHO DIES. !!
OHH, THIS IS BAD! FROM THAT POSITION, THE FIRST TO MOVE... SHALL BE THE FIRST TO DIE!

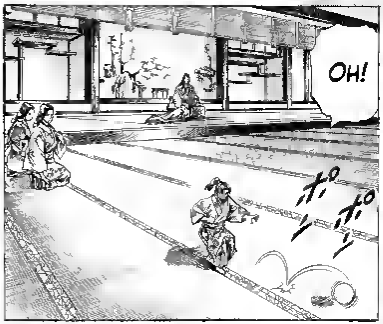
Meanwhile, in the Outer Citadel of Osaka Castle...

.....
Is Hidetada coming?
He's late !!
That Hide-tada ...
W-We can't find him anywhere!

At this rate, the Tokugawa clan will!!
Chief Vassal of the Toku-gawa Clan
Honda Masanobu
He used to be such an honest man, filled with filial piety, but now my heart is filled with naught but fear when I think of him!
What a child! He's complete-ly changed ever since he learned of Lord Ieyasu's death!
Chief Vassal of the Toku-gawa Clan
Honda Tadakatsu

Meanwhile, in the Inner Citadel of Osaka Castle...





Toyotomi Hideyoshi's most beloved concubine and mother of Hideyori, heir to the Toyotomi administration.
She was a woman of noble birth, being born between the Devil King Oda Nobunaga's sister, Lady Oichi, and the Conqueror of North Omi, Asai Nagamasa. She currently holds the real power in the Toyotomi clan.
NOW, NOW, HIDEYORI.
CALM DOWN AND TAKE YOUR SEAT.
Lady Yodo

Orphan of the late Advisor Hideyoshi, currently eight years old. As Hideyoshi's youngest child, he was heavily doted upon, and even after Hideyoshi's death, he was raised in a sheltered life deep within Osaka Castle, surrounded by his mother Lady Yodo and the ladies of the court.
YOU ARE THE LORD OF OSAKA CASTLE.
Toyotomi Hideyori
Y-YES, MOTHER.
HUH !?
HERE, LORD HIDEYORI.
LORD HIDETADA ...
THANK YOU.
OH!

OHH !
AH ...
LORD HIDEYORI, ONE DAY YOUR LIFE ...
WILL BE MINE !

OH, PARDON ME, LADY YODO.

WHAT IS THE MATTER, HIDEYORI?

I BID YOU GREET-INGS.

ワ"オ オ オ オ

STAY STRONG, MY LORD!
HUFF... HUFF...
L... LORD MUNE-NORI!

LORD SAKON, HANG IN THERE!
UN NGH ...

THAT WAS QUITE THE ONE-ON-ONE!
HEHE... MUNENORI!
YOU'RE WORN OUT TOO, RIGHT?

YAGYU MUNE-NORI... HE DIDN'T YIELD AN INCH TO LORD SAKON...
ENEMY THOUGH HE IS, I ADMIRE HIM... BUT NOW NEITHER OF THEM ARE FIT FOR BATTLE...!!

MY LORD, LEAVE THIS TO US!!
YOU CAN'T FIGHT IN YOUR CONDITION!
COULD DRIVE ME SO FAR...
MY LORD!
HEH HEH ...TO THINK THAT YOU
BRING IT ON.

!?
ENOUGH, MUNENORI!
HMM ?

YOU HAVE LOST!
RETREAT, MUNENORI!

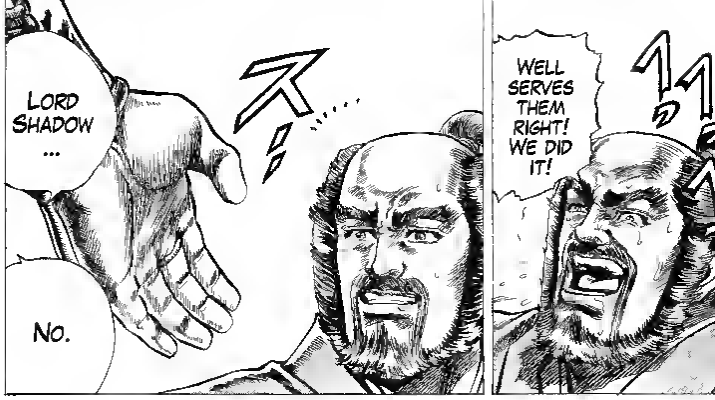
It was then that Munenori saw Tokugawa Ieyasu right before his eyes!!
L... LORD TOKUGAWA IEYASU!?
DO YOU THINK SUCH EXEMPLARY MEN COULD BE GOVERNED UNDER THE NAME OF HIDETADA!?
KATO KIYOMASA OF HIGO!
KURODA OF BUZEN!
FUKUSHIMA MASANORI OF KIYOSU!
UESUGI KAGEKATSU OF AIZU!
SHIMAZU OF SATSUMA!
MORI OF CHUGOKU!
MAEDA OF KAGA!
DATE ...
OF OSHU!

THE WORLD IS AT WAR AGAIN!! TELL THAT TO HIDETADA!!
WITH-OUT IEYASU, THE NATION SHALL NOT KNOW PEACE!

So it was that he lost all his will to fight!!
I will say it again!!... Munenori truly saw Tokugawa Ieyasu just then!!

HUFF... HUFF... RIGHT HERE!
ゴオオ

H... HUH?
SIR KAZU-MA!
ALRIGHT, TIME TO BLOW THEM AWAY!
OH, KAZUMA... YOU GUYS CAME!
W... WHERE'S THE ENEMY?
L... LORD SAKON!
THE YAGYU ARE GONE.
RIGHT, LORD SHADOW?
YEAH.
A-A-A-ARE WE SAFE?
UHE EEE EEE EH!


LORD SHADOW ...
No.
WELL SERVES THEM RIGHT! WE DID IT!

YOUR SPEECH WAS TRULY BRILL-IANT.
LORD SERADA JIROSA-BURO...

LET US FIGHT AS ONE.
Sakon, for the sake of a world without war that his lord Ishida Mitsunari wished for, and Jirosaburo, for the sake of creating a free world for vagabonds like himself, became lifelong friends right here.
November 1
Keicho year 5 (1600)
Dusk at Sekigahara... As if to foreshadow these two warriors' paths, the sunset was redder than even the purest crimson blood...

SAKON 左近 ―戦国風雲録―

Chapter Seven

Presented by Hokuto no Gun
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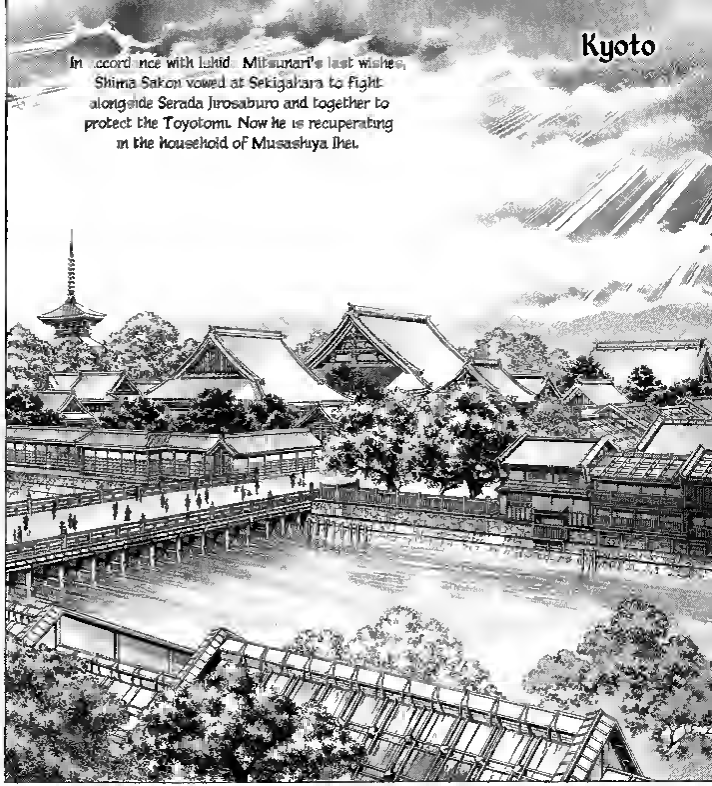
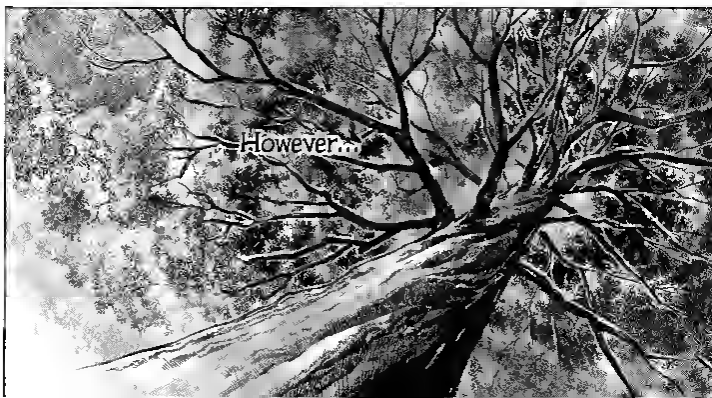
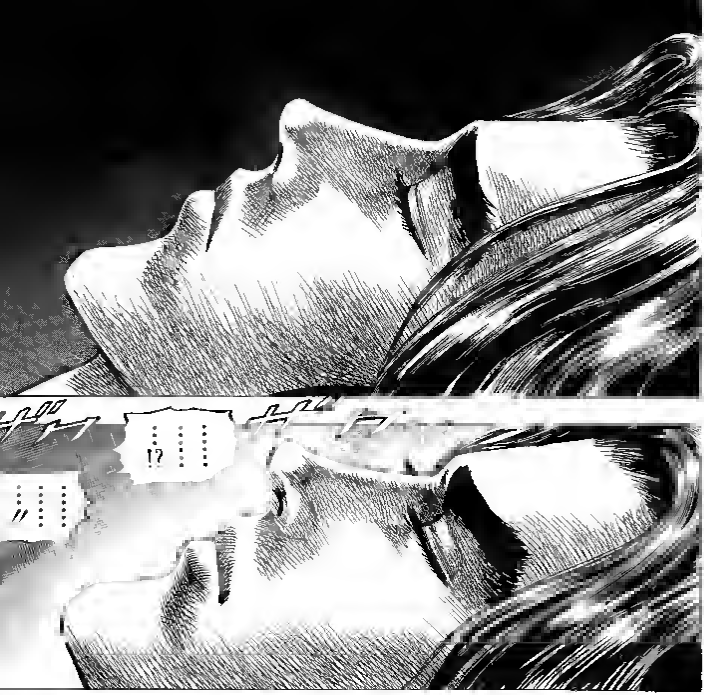
Chapter 8:
The Shadow Warrior's Past (Part 1)


In accordance with Ishida Mitsunari's last wishes, Shima Sakon vowed at Sekigahara to fight alongside Serada Jirosaburo and together to protect the Toyotomi. Now he is recuperating in the household of Musashiya Ihei.
Kyoto

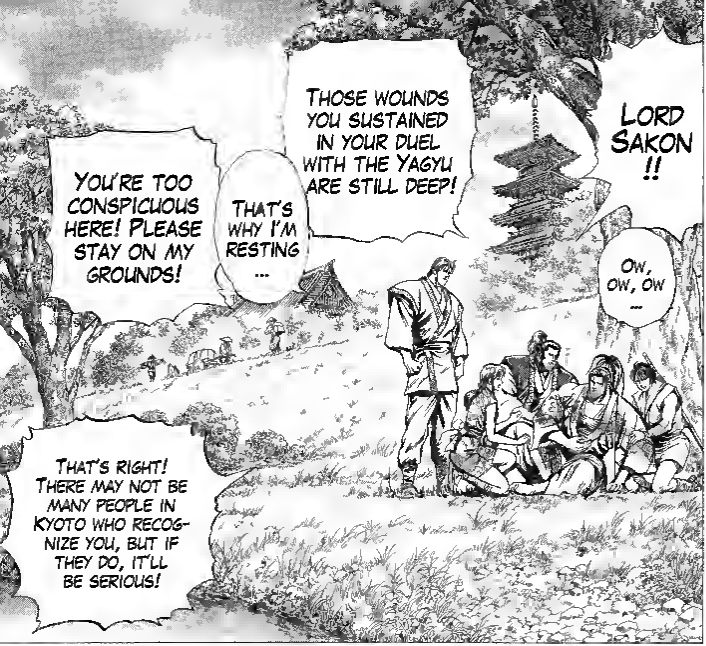

However...


!?
//

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
OH, THANK THE FATES! WE THOUGHT THE MAGISTRATE OF KYOTO HAD YOU IN CUSTODY!

LORD SAKON !
MY LORD !!

PIPE DOWN, WILL YA?
WHADDY WANT...?
.....


LORD SAKON !!
THOSE WOUNDS YOU SUSTAINED IN YOUR DUEL WITH THE YAGYU ARE STILL DEEP!
OW, OW, OW ...
THAT'S WHY I'M RESTING ...
YOU'RE TOO CONSPICUOUS HERE! PLEASE STAY ON MY GROUNDS!
THAT'S RIGHT! THERE MAY NOT BE MANY PEOPLE IN KYOTO WHO RECOGNIZE YOU, BUT IF THEY DO, IT'LL BE SERIOUS!

HUH !?
DON'T WORRY, I'VE BROUGHT THIS!
ペロ
ペロ
LOOK. ALL I DO IS ...
HOW ABOUT IT? NOW NO ONE CAN RECOGNIZE ME!
HAHHAHAHAH!
UKCH ...

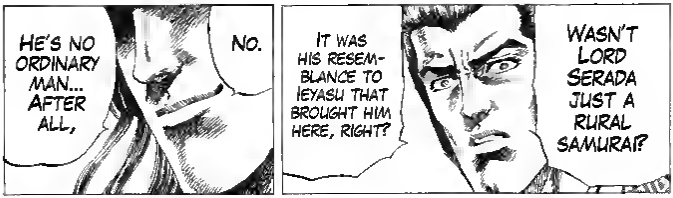
I HAD A DREAM.
JUST NOW ...
A DREAM !?
WHEN I WAS YOUNG ...
ABOUT MY MOTHER AND FATHER, WHO WERE TAKEN FROM ME BY WAR..

AND ABOUT ISHIDA MITSU-NARI...

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT... BUT THE LAST ONE I SAW WAS...
YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER, AND LORD MITSUNARI
ALL ENTRUSTED WORLD PEACE WITH YOU, LORD SAKON.

HUH...? THE ONE I KILLED?
NO, IT MAY HAVE BEEN THE SHADOW SERADA JIROSABURO, AND NOT IEYASU.
LORD TOKUGAWA IEYASU.

THE VAGA-BOND SERADA JIROSABURO...
I COULDN'T STOP TURNING THAT NAME OVER IN MY MIND.
BUT... I FINALLY RE-MEMBERED WHO HE WAS.
HUH !?

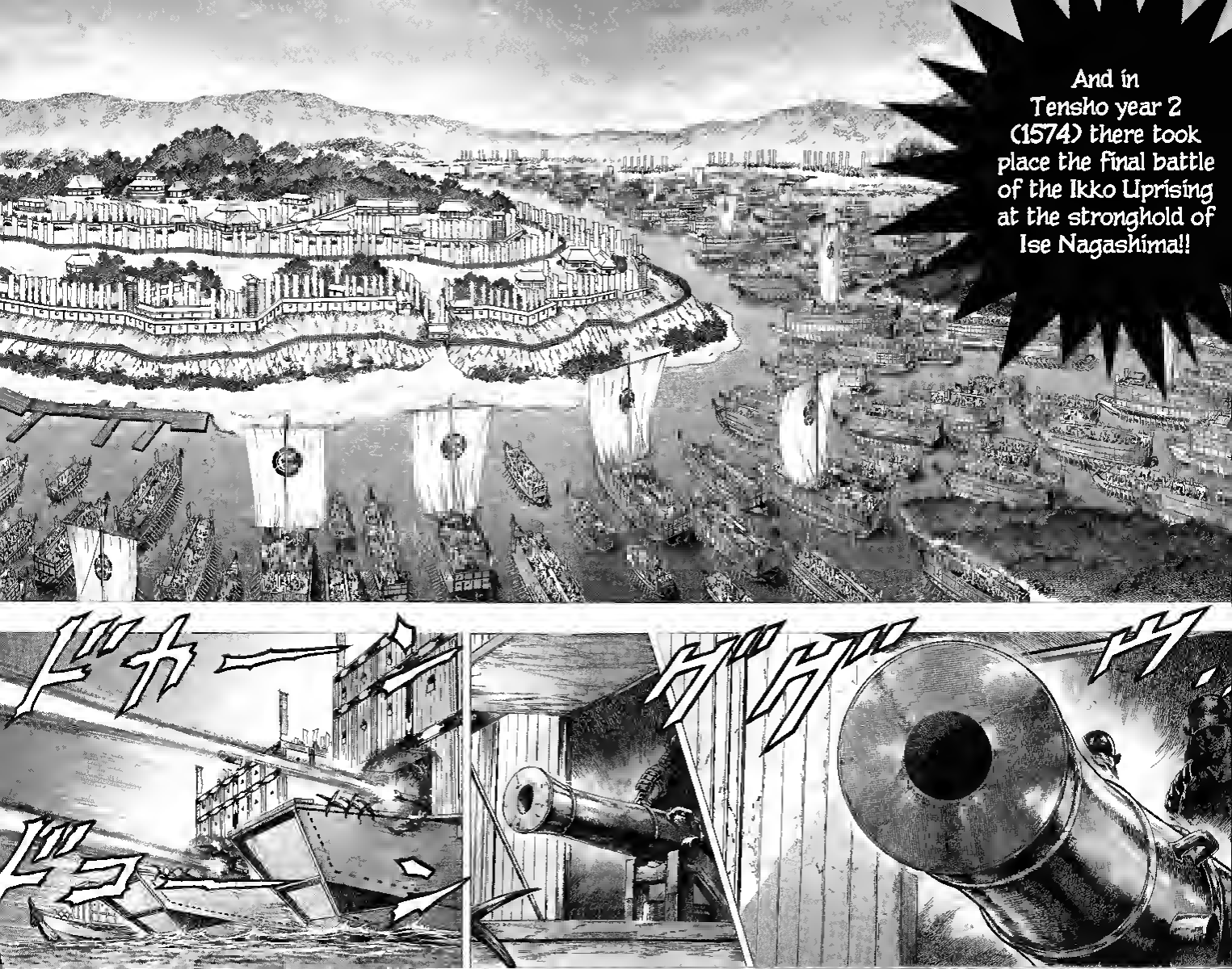

WASN'T LORD SERADA JUST A RURAL SAMURAI?
IT WAS HIS RESEM-BLANCE TO IEYASU THAT BROUGHT HIM HERE, RIGHT?
NO.
HE'S NO ORDINARY MAN... AFTER ALL,

HE'S THE MAN WHO SHOT THE DEVIL KING, ODA NOBU-NAGA.

ODA NOBU-NAGA !?

YEAH. IT WAS BACK WHEN I WAS STILL A VASSAL OF THE TSUTSUI.
IT'S STILL FRESH IN MY MIND.

Thirty years ago, Oda Nobunaga strove to unite the nation under his banner: "Spread Militarism Throughout the Land"!!
天下布武
On New Year's Day of Eiroku Year 13, Nobunaga ordered Kinoshita Tokichiro to impose blockades on the public roads between his home base in Gifu to Kyoto, because control of public roads was essential to unifying the nation.
However, to free peoples, and priests who had the special right of free passage, "The Roads are the Nation!", and to all people it seemed only natural that the "Roads of the Nation" could be freely used.
This led Kennyo, the Eleventh Head of Hongan Temple, leader of the Honganji Sect, which advocated "None Above" and "Lordlessness", to oppose Nobunaga's first step to the expansion of his power and assurance of authority, "Privatization of Public Roads".
Ganki year 2 (1571): The Arson of Mt. Hiei. Oda leads an army thirty thousand strong and burns Enryaku Temple of the Tendai sect on Mt. Hiei, with its eight-hundred-year tradition.
Kennyo
Ganki year 1 (1570): Confrontations with Kennyo of Hongan Temple escalate, leading to an eleven-year Ikko Uprising.
In Eiroku year 11 (1568), Oda entered the capital, as did Ashikaga Yoshiyuki, declaring his victorious conquest to the nation!


And in Tensho year 2 (1574) there took place the final battle of the Ikko Uprising at the stronghold of Ise Nagashima!!
ドカーン
ビシ
ガガガ
ヤ

HUH !?
!?
南无阿弥陀佛
南无阿弥陀佛
UWAH ...
UWA WAAAH !
UWAAA AUGH !

AAA
AHH
HHH
!
ゴッ
A
PW
AH
!

GWA AAH!
GYAA AAH!
MAY BUDDHA HAVE MERCY ...
MAY BUDDHA HAVE MERCY ...
MAY BUDDHA HAVE MERCY ...
MAY BUDDHA HAVE MERCY ...

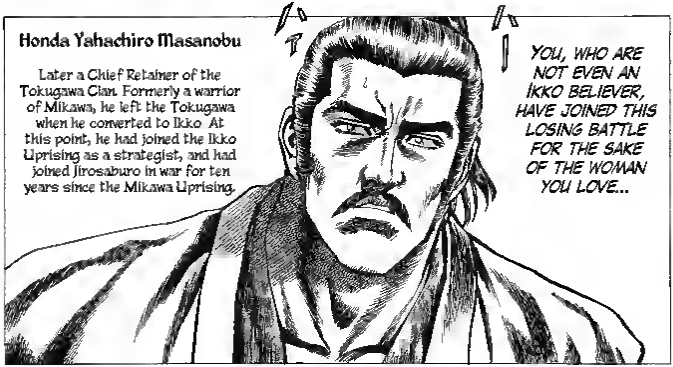
Seki
Believer of the Ikko Sect
MAY BUDDHA HAVE MERCY ...
MAY BUDDHA HAVE MERCY ...

The young Serada Jirosaburo Motonobu was a mercenary in the service of the Ikko sect.
HUFF... HUFF..
PHEW ...
.....

YOU IDIOT !!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO IF YOU DIE!?
THE FAITHFUL SHALL BE REBORN IN PARADISE ...
AND THE APOSTATE SHALL SUFFER IN HELL FOREVER ...

THANK YOU, JIROSABURO... YOU HAVE SAVED ME...
I KNOW HOW YOU CHOOSE TO LIVE!!
IF YOU D-DIED... I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LIVE ON!
AND THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT YOU TO DIE!

……

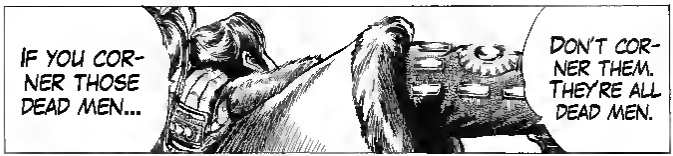

Honda Yahachiro Masanobu
Later a Chief Retainer of the Tokugawa Clan. Formerly a warrior of Mikawa, he left the Tokugawa when he converted to Ikko. At this point, he had joined the Ikko Uprising as a strategist, and had joined Jirosaburo in war for ten years since the Mikawa Uprising.
YOU, WHO ARE NOT EVEN AN IKKO BELIEVER, HAVE JOINED THIS LOSING BATTLE FOR THE SAKE OF THE WOMAN YOU LOVE...

I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING YOU ONLY IN THE HOPE OF MAKING YOU LORD IEYASU'S SHADOW WARRIOR.
HEH... NOT THAT I AM ANY DIFFERENT.

HEHHEH...
CHEERS !!
CHEERS !!
IT'D MAKE MY HEART SING TO SEE THE SEAS COLORED RED AS THIS WINE WITH THEIR BLOOD!
Shibata Katsuie
TAHHAHAHA! W-WELL, THEY'RE BOUND TO SURRENDER EVENTUALLY!
WE'VE BLOCKED OFF THE SEAS AND RIVERS AND CUT OFF THEIR SUPPLY LINES FOR TWO MONTHS... THEY'LL GIVE UP SOON!
Hashiba Hideyoshi

AHHAHA HAHAHA! MONKEY!! YOUR MONKEY BRAIN WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND!
TAHAHA! I REALLY AM NOTHING COMPARED TO YOU!
THAT WON'T DO...
HUH?
OH, MY LORD!
HOW MAGNANIMOUS OF YOU TO GRANT THEM MERCY!
YOU'LL JUST STARVE THEM OUT WITHOUT MERCY, RIGHT?
BUT WHEN THEY DO SURRENDER, MY LORD...
NO, WE WILL HAVE MERCY ON THEM
WALTZ ON OUT OF THE FORTRESS, WE KILL THEM. IT'S THE QUICKEST WAY.
HUH?
THAT'S RIGHT. THEN WHEN THE IKKO BELIEVERS...

WHO IS HE ...!?
.....
HUH... WHA...
WHAT !?
THAT JUST WON'T DO. HAHAHA!


IF YOU CORNER THOSE DEAD MEN...
DON'T CORNER THEM. THEY'RE ALL DEAD MEN.

WE'RE THE ONES WHO WILL END UP HURT.

WAS THERE EVER SUCH A RECKLESS FOOL IN ODA'S ARMY?
HE'S TALKING BACK TO THE LORD ...

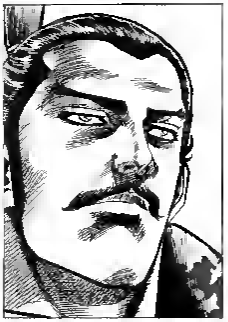
LORD TSUTSUI JUNKEI'S RETAINER, SHIMA SAKON ...
T...THAT MUST BE...!!

WHO ARE YOU?

UMNH... ARE YOU RESISTING US!? HEY, GIVE US A HAND!
COME WITH US!! YOU INSOLENT...
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT.

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? BRING HIM HERE!
OH, WHAT IS IT?

YOU ...



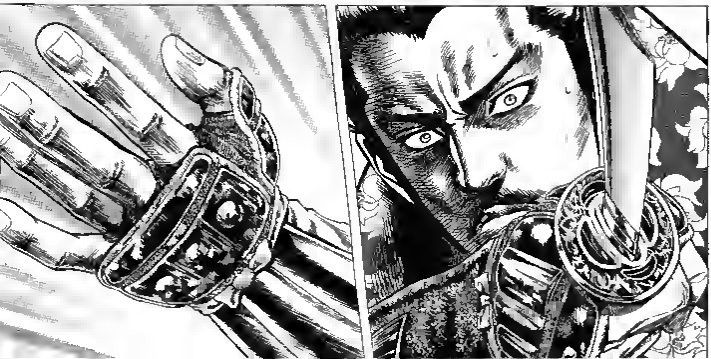
EEK!

THAT STRUCK A NERVE?
DID I SAY SOMETHING ...
OOH, HE'S BIG ...

THOSE FANGS COULD SINK INTO YOUR HANDS TOO, LORD NOBUNAGA.
WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID WE SHOULDN'T PUSH THE IKKO ADHERENTS TOO FAR?
YOU SHOULDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF WITH OTHERS NOW.

YOU'RE THE ONE STARING DEATH IN THE FACE, YOU FOOL!!

ガッ
……!?
!!

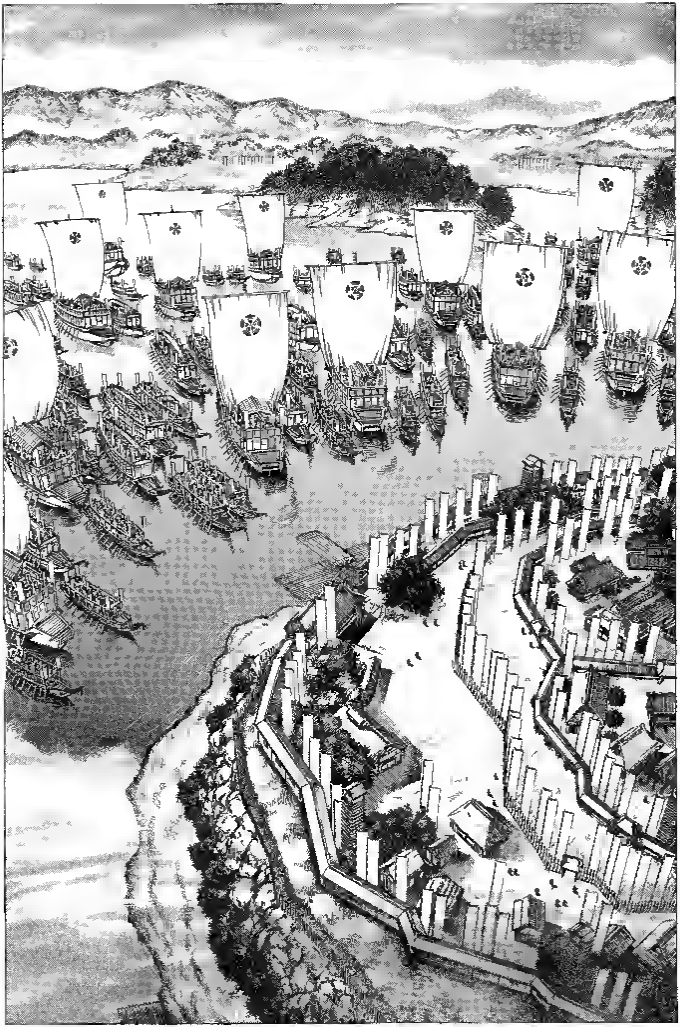


!!
JUST WHEN YOU THINK YOU'VE WORKED IT ALL OUT, SOMETHING CAN HAPPEN. LIKE THE WAY YOU UNDERESTIMATED ME JUST NOW.
AND THAT'S WHY!!

THE IKKO BELIEVERS IN THE NAGASHIMA FORTRESS ...
HAVE SEEN FRIENDS DYING IN THE ATTACK ON NAGASHIMA, AND WITNESSED THE SLAUGHTER AT MT. HIEI. THEIR GRUDGE AGAINST YOU RUNS DEEP, LORD NOBUNAGA.
THEIR NUMBERS ARE NEARLY ...
TWENTY THOUSAND !!

AND AMONG THOSE TWENTY THOU-SAND ...
ゴゴ...ゴゴ
ARE THOSE WHO MAY BE CAPABLE OF THINGS ...
THAT YOU, LORD NO-BUNAGA, COULD NEVER IMAGINE ...

I WILL
KILL NOBU-NAGA !!



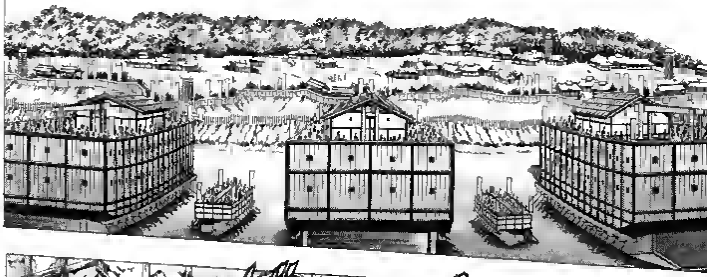
As Sakon reminisces, he tells of the shadow Tokugawa Ieyasu.
AND IT WAS IN THE MIDST OF THE FIERCE BATTLE BETWEEN THE DEVIL KING ODA NOBUNAGA AND THE IKKO BELIEVERS
HEHEHE... SHIMA SAKON.
YOU DARED TALK BACK TO ME...
YOU ARE RE-MARKABLE! HAHHAHA!
CORRECT. THERE MAY BE ONE MAN IN 20,000 WHO SHALL FAR EXCEED EXPECTA-TIONS
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES ...
I WOULD NEVER HAVE BELIEVED THAT SOMEONE COULD GET AWAY WITH ANY KIND OF VIOLENCE TOWARDS LORD NOBUNAGA!
LORD NOBU-NAGA ...
ARE YOU GO-ING TO LISTEN TO ME!?
NO, I WILL NOT.

VERY WELL! THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING!
THEN YOU WILL SEE WHETHER IT WAS NOBUNAGA OR SAKON WHO WAS RIGHT, THOUGH YOU'LL HAVE TO RISK YOUR LIFE FOR IT.
LET ME HAVE YOUR LIFE UNTIL THE IKKO ARE TAKEN CARE OF.

Tensho Year 2 (1574)
Ise Nagashima Fortress

This sickening method of slaughter, aptly termed "starving out", led to the deaths of over half the insurgents by starvation.

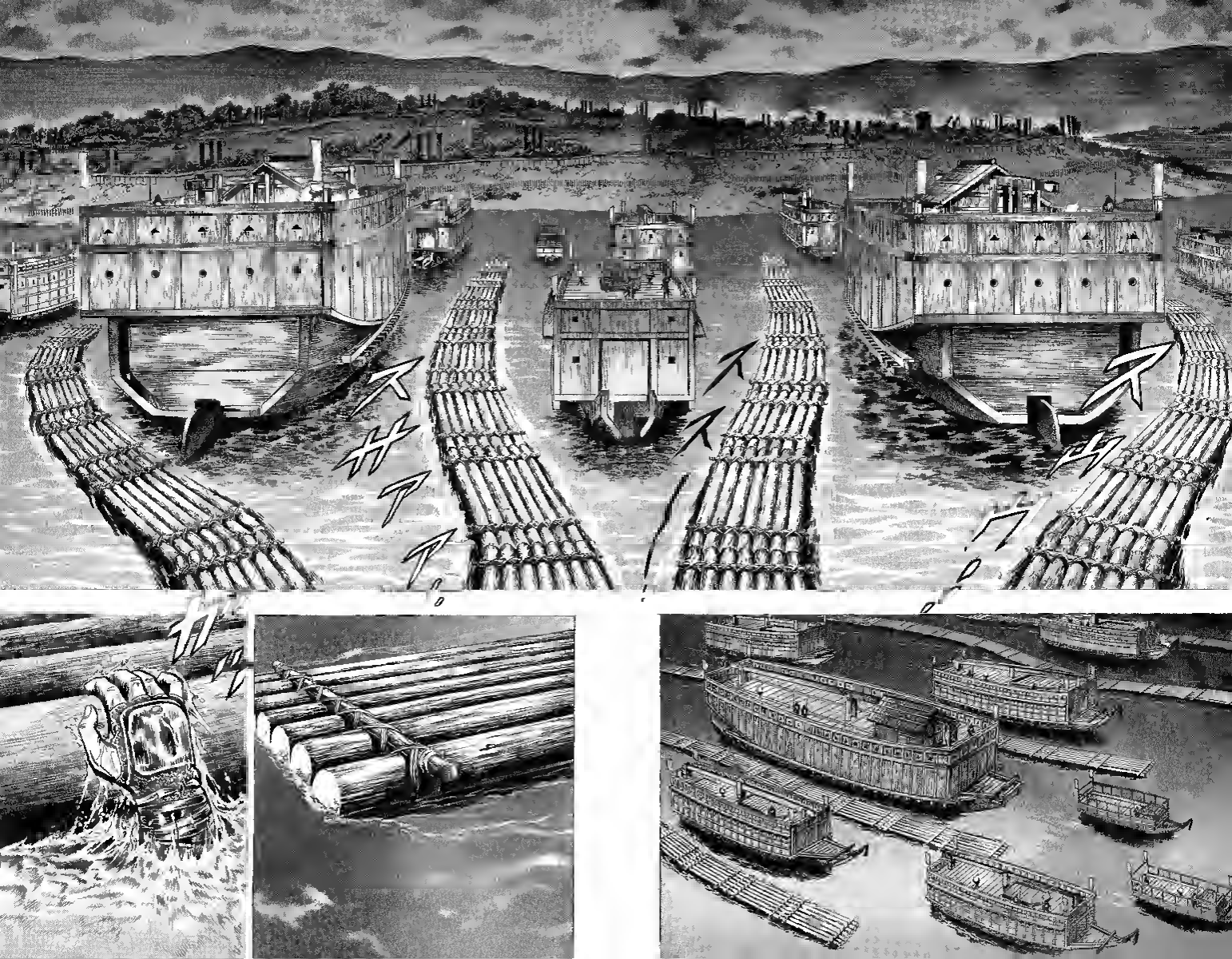
With Nobunaga's massive fleet blocking the way to the sea, the insurgents' supply lines were completely cut off.



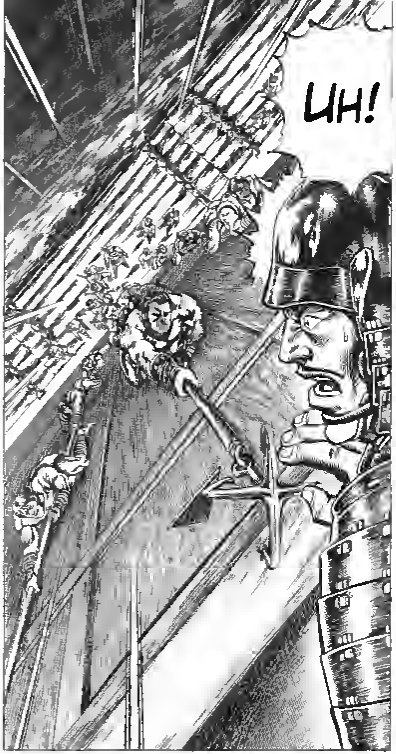
YEAH... I FEEL LIKE I'M GONNA DIE...
SEKI, I'M HUNGRY ...
KEEP FIGHTING!
Y... YES!
YOU ALL HANG IN THERE NOW.
LEAVE IT TO ME!
JIROSABURO.
WE'LL BE ANNIHILATED AT THIS RATE. WHAT DO WE DO?
I'LL KILL NOBUNAGA WITH MY OWN HANDS!
HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE SUCH AN IMPOSSIBLE FEAT?
BUT WE'RE SURROUNDED BY HIS FLEET AND CAN'T TAKE A STEP OUTSIDE!
!
THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS! WE KILL NOBUNAGA!

ANY-THING TO REPORT!?
NO. ALL QUIET.
MAYBE THOSE IKKO BE-LIEVERS ARE ALL DEAD IN THERE! HAHA!
GAHA HAHA !
THEY MUST'VE ALL DIED! THEY SHOULD'VE SURRENDERED SOONER!
HMM?
スス…
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT...!?

YEAH, THAT SOUNDS GOOD!
THAT IT'S NOT A PROBLEM! YAAAWN! TIME FOR A NAP!
...WHICH MEANS...
THE HELL? THERE'S NOTHING ON IT...



"Seafarers" meant groups of people who lived in the world of water. Many sailors and seamen lived in Nagashima, where the Kiso River, the Nagara River, and the Ibi River meet, and Jirosaburo organized them.
RIGHT, LET'S GO!
THEY HAVEN'T NOTICED US AT ALL! VICTORY WILL BE OURS IF WE ATTACK NOW!
USING THE SEAFARERS WAS A GREAT IDEA, SIR JIROSABURO AND SIR HONDA.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
YES.
HUFF... HUFF...
HUFF... HUFF...
HUFF... HUFF
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SEKI!?


UH!

YAA AAA AWN!

WHAT THE HELL!?
HMM MM?

B-BUT THERE WERE A LOT OF BELIEVERS HIDING UNDER THEM ....!!
OHH... I THOUGHT THOSE WERE JUST ORDINARY RAFTS

YIKES!

UGH!
W... WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!!
I...IT'S TERRIBLE!
BGG GH!
The surprise attack dealt a major blow to Nobunaga's fleet.
ATTACK!!

Nobunaga's main camp
about 1½ ri (6km) from
Nagashima Fortress

W-WHAT'S MORE, LORD ODA NOBUHIRO AND LORD ODA NOBUNARI HAVE BEEN SLAIN.
THE IKKO BELIEVERS' SURPRISE ATTACK HAS ALL BUT DESTROYED THE KUKI NAVY.

WHAT !?

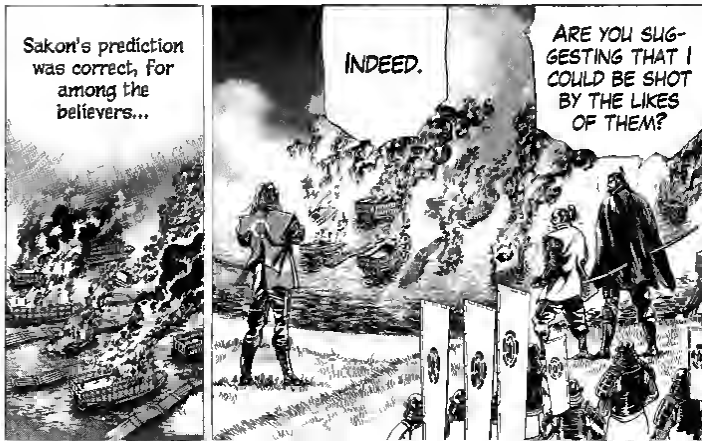
ドガガ"
LORD NOBUNAGA HAS ARRIVED!!

UNN NNGH ...

L... LOOK AT THAT!
L...LORD NOBUNAGA!
MY LORD !!

ドゴゴゴォ～
ゲゲゲ…
ゴゴゴゴォ～
UNNGH …
HOW COULD THEY DO THIS?
IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS HERE.
…

SEEMS TO HAVE AN IMPRESSIVE STRATEGIST.
THE ENEMY ...
LORD NOBUNAGA, YOU SHOULD RETURN TO CAMP.
THERE'S NO STOPPING THEM NOW.
.....
WHAT ?
YIKES! HIM AGAIN!?


Sakon's prediction was correct, for among the believers...
INDEED.
ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT I COULD BE SHOT BY THE LIKES OF THEM?

What is more...
Serada Jirosaburo Motonobu, the future Tokugawa Ieyasu, was also there.
He would later return to the Tokugawa clan as Ieyasu's tactician, and would lay the foundation for the Tokugawas' three-hundred-year rule.
...was the exceptional strategist, Honda Masanobu.
AAA ARGH !
YEAH.
GOOD, JIROSABURO! THIS SHIP WILL SINK SOON!
GWE AAAH !
DON'T MOVE !!
YOU TRULY ARE AN IMPRESSIVE MAN.
YOU MAY JUST BE ABLE TO SHOOT NOBUN...!
LET'S HEAD STRAIGHT FOR NOBUNAGA'S CAMP NOW!

IF YOU MOVE, SHE DIES!

AUGH!
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE HER, WITHDRAW YOUR TROOPS!

S... SEKI!

LET'S GO AND CRUSH THEM ALL!
JIROSABURO, DO NOT FALTER!
DON'T BE TROUBLED WITH SEKI! SHE IS DESTINED FOR PARADISE!

JIROSABURO HAS BEEN FIGHTING FOR THIS WOMAN ALL ALONG. !! HE'S NOT THINKING ABOUT THE BELIEVERS! HE'D EVEN COMMIT SUICIDE TO SAVE HER!
O...OH, NO!!

I'LL RETREAT. J-JUST LET GO OF SEKI!
VERY WELL.
HUH !?
JIRO-SABURO ...

IF YOU LET THIS CHANCE SLIP, YOU MAY NEVER BE ABLE TO DEFEAT NOBUNAGA! SO FIGHT!!
YOU MUST NOT DO THIS, JI-ROSABURO!
HEHE... FIRST, LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS.
EHHHHEHE YOU MUST REALLY WANT THIS WOMAN.

YOU ARE ALL THERE IS FOR ME!
YOU...
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE BE-LIEVERS' VICTORY!
D-DON'T BE RIDI-CULOUS, SEKI!

JIRO-SABURO, I VALUE THE IKKO BELIEVERS' VICTORY OVER MY LIFE!!
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BITCH?

WE MUST NOT ALLOW ANYONE TO TRY AND STEAL OUR FREEDOM! AS A VAGABOND YOURSELF, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND!
WE MUST NOT LOSE TO NOBUNAGA!
WHAT!?

AND I GLADLY LAY DOWN MY OWN LIFE FOR THIS VICTORY!
UGGGH... D-DON'T ...
NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO PLACE THEMSELVES ABOVE OTHERS! FOR THAT REASON, THE IKKO BELIEVERS MUST SEIZE VICTORY!

SEKI!
S-
WAH TAH!
I-I-I DIDN'T DO IT! SHE DID IT HERSELF!
HUH?

I AM NOT AFRAID... I AM GLAD TO BE OF USE TO YOU ALL ...
I... I LAY DOWN MY LIFE FOR MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF THE IKKO SECT...
SEKI ...
.....
DYING WON'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITHOUT YOU!?
Y-YOU MORON !
K... KCH...
WHAT DO I HAVE TO LIVE FOR!?
I-IF YOU'RE DEAD, THEN WHAT ...
.....

!
T... THANK YOU.
Y...YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE ...
WHO SHOWED ME... LOVE...
?
EVERY DAY YOU PROTECTED ME WAS FILLED WITH HAPPINESS...
S... SEKI...
T... THANK... YOU...
I'M SO GLAD... I KNEW...

S-
SEKI
!!

UWAAAAAAAH!!
UUUH...
!!
UU...
UU...
GHHH...

BW'AH
!
HE:PE
PI...
FI:F
...
!!

Volume 2: Lifelong Friend – END

■ジャンプ・コミックス

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2生涯の盟友

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Chapter Eight

Presented by Hokuto no Gun
Translated by SystematicChaos
Proofread by LoverOfHokuto & Wright
Edited by Akromata

www.hokutonogun.com

FIGHT TAZMO

To my fellow fans -

Recently, a member of the community named Blud typed out a informative, and well written page that detailed the exploits of Narutofan creator Tazmo.

The point of this was to further spread the awareness of who Tazmo is, what he does, and why it is wrong. However, things like these tend to eventually need updating, and that is why this has been typed out.

What Blud stated is all very correct. However, it must be brought to everyones attention that Tazmo has expanded into full blown, stand alone websites that he has referred to as "revolutionary services".

http://www.anime-plus.com

and

http://www.manga-plus.com

These websites seek to misinform manga and anime fans across the world into believing that his services are fair, the only one of their kind, and more secure than using other resources such as IRC or BitTorrent to get what you want.

The truth is as follows: Tazmo himself uses IRC and BitTorrent to get the files on his websites. He uses the FREE resources that every single one of you can also use, so that he can charge you various fees for getting what is FREE.

Tazmo is profiteering off of a FREE service provided by various members of the anime and manga community who donate their spare time to bring the latest manga and anime to you for FREE. They donate their time, work, and abilities in various areas, as well as use their own bandwidth to serve files.

There are various FREE ways to get and read the manga you want. There are free online readers such as http://www.onemanga.com as well as http://www.mangahut.com.

There are also resource websites such as http://www.mangahelpers.com, http://www.mangashare.com, as well as database resource sites such as http://www.mangaupdates.com.

There are thousands of people who work thousands of hours weekly to bring you the manga you love to read, as well as the anime you love to watch. They do it not to make a profit, but for FREE as a FREE service to the community that we all love very much. **EVERYTIME TAZMO MAKES MONEY OFF OF THEIR HARD WORK HE NOT ONLY INSULTS THEM, BUT INSULTS ALL THOSE WHO PAY FOR HIS SERVICE. Do the right thing, stop supporting Tazmo.**

Drafted by Kaleb. Inspired by Blud. Free distribution with any releases is encouraged.
Fight Tazmo. Put this and Blud's page in your releases to get the word out.